What Is Claimed Is:

1. A connecting element for weight measurement in a vehicle seat (21), wherein the connecting element (12 to 14, 23 to 26, 32, 36 to 38) has connecting means (33) to a single-wire bus (LIN) and bus communications means (33).

2. The connecting element as recited in Claim 1, wherein the connecting means (33) to the single-wire bus (LIN) is configured so that the connecting means (33) indicate an installation position of the connecting element using hardware coding.

3. The connecting element as recited in Claim 2, wherein the connecting means have voltage connection (VBAT), a data communications connection (L), a ground connection (GND) and a configuration connection (CONF), a wiring configuration of the configuration connection (CONF) indicating the installation position.

4. The connecting element as recited in one of the preceding claims, wherein the bus communications means (33) have a toroidal core store which stores measured values for the weight measurement, the indicator (73) being provided to retrieve the measured values.

5. The connecting element as recited in one of the preceding claims, wherein the connecting element has a memory in which a serial number is stored that characterizes the connecting element.

6. The connecting element as recited in one of the preceding claims, wherein the connecting element is configured as a slave to the bus communications.

7. A method for bus communications between a control unit (ECU) for activating personal protective means as a master, and at least one connecting element (32, 36 to 38) for weight measurement in a vehicle seat (21) as a slave, the control unit (ECU) assigning to the at least one connecting element a respective address in the light of a respective serial number of the at least one connecting element.

8. The method as recited in Claim 7,

wherein the control unit in each case sends the at least one connecting element a request message; and then the connecting element transmits measured values to the control unit (ECU) as a function of the request message.

9. A bus system having a control unit for activating personal protective means as a master, and at least two connecting elements which are configured for weight measurement in a vehicle seat as slaves, the bus system having a single-wire bus.

10. The bus system as recited in Claim 9,

wherein the bus system has four connecting elements which are installed in a vehicle seat.